

WELCOMING J.W. DUNCAN

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, at 5:19 this afternoon, I became a grandfather.

My middle son, J.P. Duncan, had our first grandchild, John Waylon, J.W. Duncan, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and you can tell this Congressman is excited.

KAVYA JAKASANIA WINS COUNTY SPELLING BEE

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise a great speller in my district, Kavya Jakasania. The seventh grade student at Frank R. Conwell, Middle School 4, in Jersey City won the 2023 Hudson County Spelling Bee recently.

Kavya bested a field of 62 of my district's top spellers to take the crown. It was a tough battle to the end, but after 12 rounds, Kavya spelled the word "internecine" correctly to win the spelling bee.

For my edification and for my colleagues who are curious about "internecine," it means deadly or marked by great slaughter.

With her victory, Kavya advances to the Scripps National Spelling Bee on May 30 through June 1. I know she will do a great job.

She has already made me, her school, and her family very proud of her success.

HONORING SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT MARK LETT

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Senior Master Sergeant Mark Lett, an American hero who retired after 26 faithful years of service from the United States Air Force in 2011.

Senior Master Sergeant Lett was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, and attended Carter High School. He joined the Air Force in 1985.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Lett served as an in-flight refueling specialist on a KC-135 aircraft in addition to serving as a flight instructor and flight engineer.

During his long career, he was stationed in five States across the United States. While serving as a flight engineer, he deployed to Uzbekistan and Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He received numerous awards during his Air Force career, including the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and many more.

After retiring from the Air Force in 2011, he returned to Knoxville. In July

2014, I was pleased to note that he joined the Knox County Veterans Services as the deputy veterans service officer.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize American hero Senior Master Sergeant Lett as Tennessee Second District's Veteran of the Month.

PUTTING PEOPLE OVER POLITICS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, House Democrats are putting people over politics by lowering kitchen-table costs, creating better-paying jobs, cutting costs for healthcare coverage, and capping out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors.

However, extreme MAGA Republicans have an economic plan that would do just the opposite. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are set to advance a new 30 percent national sales tax. This will increase the average family's costs for groceries and essentials by hundreds of dollars each and every month.

Some MAGA Republicans say they want to cut Social Security and Medicare, and working families will lose their hard-earned benefits. They are putting special interests of the few over the working-class majority.

House Democrats will continue to fight for working families. We will always put people over politics and seniors over party, and we will always, always put people first.

PETE BUTTIGIEG SHOULD RESIGN

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on the Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, to resign immediately.

The Secretary's priorities don't line up with what the American people expect from him. Buttigieg has failed to execute DOT's mission, which is to improve the quality and safety of our Nation's transportation system.

Instead, he is laser-focused on wokeness at the agency and in our culture. Think about it. He took 10 days to even acknowledge the devastating train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

During those 10 days, as Ohioans fled from their homes and feared for their health, he did find time to say that there are too many White people in the construction industry. I don't know about you, but when I see the men and women who build the structures that house us and the roads that connect us, I am not thinking about their race. I just appreciate that they are doing the hard work that is necessary for our society to thrive.

It is time for Pete to go back to Indiana so someone serious about building

infrastructure and transportation systems that are safe and effective can start getting the job done.

OUR SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE WILL NOT WAVER

(Mr. NICKEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the free and independent nation of Ukraine.

It has been over a year since Vladimir Putin ordered his tanks and troops into Ukraine. In the past year, the United States has led an extraordinary coalition of global partners to stand against Russia's unprovoked and brutal invasion of Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, I traveled to Ukraine with then-Vice President Al Gore in the 1990s as a staffer, and it fills my heart with pride to know that Kyiv still stands strong. Ukraine is still free, and democracy still prevails. Our support for Ukraine will not waver.

I wish we didn't have to spend any money in Ukraine, but if Putin wins, we will spend a thousand times more trying to contain an emboldened and aggressive Russia.

We must continue to stand with Ukraine in their fight for freedom and democracy.

CONGRATULATING ARMSTRONG-INDIANA-CLARION DRUG AND ALCOHOL COMMISSION

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission on winning the 2022 John W. Britt Community Service Award.

The John W. Britt Community Service Award is given to a non-law enforcement agency or entity that makes a significant contribution to the efforts of liquor and/or tobacco enforcement and demonstrates program effectiveness through underlying efforts and practices.

Mr. Speaker, the Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission provides alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and problem gambling prevention services within the three-county region to schools, universities, businesses, organizations, and other entities.

In 2021-2022, AICDAC partnered with Pennsylvania's Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement on several underage drinking prevention activities, a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder campaign, awareness presentations around prom season, and small games of chance trainings.

The AICDAC is a model example of programming and partnerships that have made and continue to make contributions to enhance the efforts of liquor enforcement and raise awareness in